

REMARKS

Applicant has reviewed and considered the final Office Action mailed on March 9, 2010. The Office Action rejected claims 1, 6, 10, 21, and 22, objected to claims 5, 7-9, and 23-26, and allowed claims 27-30. Applicant amends claims 1, 6, and 26 and cancels claims 2-5, 7-9, and 11-20. Claims 21-46 have been added. Following amendments to the claims, claims 1, 6, 10, and 21-46 are pending in the present application. Support for the amendments may be found at least in the claims as originally filed. No new matter is added. Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and allowance of the claims in view of the following remarks.

Allowed Claims

Applicant thanks the Examiner for the allowance of claims 27-30 and for the indication that dependent claims 5, 7-9, and 23-26 would be allowable if re-written to incorporate all the limitations of their respective base claims. To expedite prosecution of the application, Applicant has amended the claims and added new claims to incorporate limitations from claims 5, 7-9, and 23-26.

Claim 1 is amended to incorporate the limitations of allowable claim 5. Claim 6 is amended to incorporate the limitations of allowable claim 7. Claim 31 is added to incorporate the limitations of claims 6 and allowable claim 8. Claim 33 is added to incorporate the limitations of claims 6 and allowable claim 9. Claim 35 is added to incorporate the limitations of claims 1 and allowable claim 23. Claim 40 is added to incorporate the limitations of claims 1 and allowable claim 24. Claim 43 is added to incorporate the limitations of claims 1 and allowable claim 25.

Applicant believes that all claims are in condition for allowance and respectfully requests that a Notice of Allowance be issued.

Claim Rejections – 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 1, 6, 10, 21, and 22 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Johnson (WO 00/59424 A1) in view of Overton et al (U.S. Patent No. 5,611,846). The rejection is moot in view of the amendments to the claims described above. Applicant respectfully requests that the rejection under 35 U.S.C. 103 be withdrawn.

CONCLUSION

Applicant respectfully submits that the pending claims are in condition for full allowance and the same is respectfully requested.

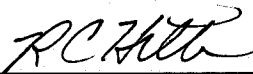
Applicant submits \$1,516.00 to pay for the excess claim fees associated with five additional independent claims and eight additional total claims. To provide for the possibility that Applicants have overlooked the need for a fee, including a fee for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. 1.136(a), the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any underpayment of fees or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 19-3140 of Sonnenschein Nath & Rosenthal LLP.

The Examiner is invited to call the undersigned at the below-listed telephone number if, in the opinion of the Examiner, such a telephone conference would expedite or aid the prosecution and examination of this application.

Date: _____

5/5/10

Respectfully submitted,



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